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University of Minnesota Morris

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University of Minnesota
University of Minnesota, Morris
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February 23, 1961

For Immediate Release

ORCHESTRA ORGANIZED AT UMM

The first organizational rehearsal of an orchestra drew a dozen strings and two dozen wind and percussion players to the University of Minnesota, Morris last Friday.

Businessmen, housewives, music teachers, and students appeared at the UMM's Music Hall, enthusiastic about the prospect of starting such a venture. Coming from as far away as Ortonville and Glenwood, many of the string players hadn't had an opportunity for many years to play in an orchestra.

Directed by Ralph E. Williams, assistant professor of music at the University of Minnesota, Morris, the orchestra will rehearse every Friday from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. except during University vacation periods.

Most of the wind and percussion players were drawn from the UMM band. It was the first experience playing in an orchestra for the majority of these students.

With additional strings expected at future rehearsals, Professor Williams anticipates a total of about twenty this spring. He expects to have thirty wind and percussion instruments. Assuming the orchestra to be a success, Professor Williams foresees that it will attract string players from the larger high schools in the area to the University of Minnesota, Morris.